



Songs of Summer Psalm 84

We all have a song or two that when we hear it takes us back to those summer vibes. The lyrics and the melody take us back to the beach, the pool, the sunset, our friends, some of our best summer memories. Those songs have a special place in our memories. But there are also songs in Scripture that should take us back and remind us of who God is and what God has done. The Psalms are chocked full of songs of summer to listen to. This summer let's go back and listen to some of Scripture's best songs of summer.

The right destination leads to an incredible journey.

- As you reflect on the message, what stood out to you? What is something you are still thinking about?
- What is something from the message that challenged you? How are you wrestling with that challenge?
- What question(s) do you have from the message?
- What is at least one practical takeaway from the message?

Psalm 84

To the choirmaster: according to The Gittith. A Psalm of the Sons of Korah.

1 How lovely is your dwelling place,
O Lord of hosts!

2 My soul longs, yes, faints
for the courts of the Lord;
my heart and flesh sing for joy
to the living God.

3 Even the sparrow finds a home,
and the swallow a nest for herself,
where she may lay her young,
at your altars, O Lord of hosts,
my King and my God.

4 Blessed are those who dwell in your house,
ever singing your praise! *Selah*

5 Blessed are those whose strength is in you,
in whose heart are the highways to Zion.

6 As they go through the Valley of Baca
they make it a place of springs;
the early rain also covers it with pools.

7 They go from strength to strength;
each one appears before God in Zion.

8 O Lord God of hosts, hear my prayer;
give ear, O God of Jacob! *Selah*

9 Behold our shield, O God;
look on the face of your anointed!

10 For a day in your courts is better
than a thousand elsewhere.

I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God
than dwell in the tents of wickedness.

11 For the Lord God is a sun and shield;
the Lord bestows favor and honor.

No good thing does he withhold
from those who walk uprightly.

12 O Lord of hosts,
blessed is the one who trusts in you!

- Have you ever experienced something that was incredible—a trip, meal, or something else—but after it was over you were left wanting more? What was that experience like?
- What is this psalm about? Remember the context of Psalm 84. Consider the importance of “dwelling place,” “courts of the Lord,” “altars,” and “house.”
- Psalm 84 is a pilgrimage psalm—a psalm sung on the way to Jerusalem as the people of God prepared to worship the Lord. How might we use this psalm as we think about our own spiritual “pilgrimage?”
- Pastor Nick challenged us to “set our sights”—to know where we are going. The problem is we can set our sights on the wrong things. What are some of those wrong things we set our sights on?
- According to Psalm 84 what should we set our sights on? Look at all the ways the psalm describes “setting our sights.”
- How do we set our sights on the Lord and eternity with him? What are some practical steps we can take to do that?
- The spiritual journey was never meant to be done alone. We’re meant to travel together. Where in Psalm 84 do you see plural or communal language?
- How has community been a part of your spiritual journey? How can you make community more a part of your journey?
- While the Lord is our ultimate destination, Psalm 84 also shows us how the Lord is on the journey with us. How does the psalm describe the Lord being with us on our journey?
- How have you seen the Lord be present on your spiritual journey? How does it make you feel to know he’s there?
- The reality is we don’t have to wait for our eternal destination to be with the Lord. We can have him now. What do you need to do now to experience more of the presence of God now?
- How can you increase your hunger for the Lord now?